

# The Bloomin' News



October, 2013, Vol. VI, 75

Les Leckron, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## Chairmans Message

Thank You – Thank You – Thank You! The Fall Tree and Plant Sale was a success due to all the Club Members pitching in and making it happen! I know I'd miss someone if I start listing all the people who invested their time and efforts, so Thanks to all who helped. We couldn't have done this sale without an Event Chairman, and Ed Rahn is commended for pulling this together. Ed faithfully puts in time at the Tree Farm and understands the effort behind growing sellable plants. As Burl always said, "Many hands make light work", and it was true with this sale. I wasn't able to help load and transport plants to the sale, but Wow, what a great group that helped load, take unsold plants back to the Tree Farm and properly place them! Great Sale, my sincere thanks to all!

We are a growing Organization! We had Dr. Bill Shumpert and Gary Grant join in August; then Janice Dolan and Pat Craaner joined; and this past week we had 3 more join: Ruby Ebright, Terri Bell, and Terry Rosenberger (Terry is a past TMGC Chairman, returning to the fold). This increase in membership says a lot about us, and we hope to fulfill each of our club member's expectations. Please introduce yourself to new members as we grow and learn from one another. Now that I'm employed at KSC again, I won't be able to be at the Tree Farm during the week, but will do my best to put in time when I can. Enjoy the cooler Fall weather and Keep It Growing! Les

## OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN

Nights are slowly turning cooler, and days are shorter and slightly cooler—a relief to us and to our plants.

October normally brings less rain than September, so you will need to watch your lawn, shrubs, annuals and potted plants and water them when needed.

This is the last month to fertilize your lawn, palms and shrubs. Use a good 16-4-8 plus Iron fertilizer on your lawn so it will be green all winter (barring frost). Apply weed control products if needed. If not already done, give shrubs and hedges a final fall pruning. Remove suckers, low limbs and trim or remove unwanted growth.

Any pruning done after mid-October will stimulate new growth that could suffer cold damage this winter. Delay all pruning of vines and fruit trees until mid-winter. Operate sprinkler systems manually to conserve water. Water lawns when grass shows signs of stress.

Renew mulches as needed to conserve moisture during the dryer Fall and Winter months. To assure holiday blooms, relocate POINSETTIAS, CHRISTMAS CATUS and KALANCHOES so no artificial light will fall on them. If you expect to plant Winter and Spring bulbs such as TULIPS, CROCUS, DAFFODILS and HYACINTH, this is the time to begin the 12 weeks of refrigeration required by the bulbs in our climate.

If you like to pick your own strawberries, now is the time to start a bed with a bundle of 25 fresh, healthy plants from a nursery or garden center. Varieties that \

have given good yields in central Florida gardens include Florida 90, Tioga, Dover, Florida Belle and Douglas. They will also do well in full sun in a large wooden barrel, a pyramid, or hanging baskets using a good potting mix. Three plants in a 10" or 4 in a 12" basket will flourish in full sunshine if given adequate water and fertilizer.

If not already done, give Citrus and grapes a final feeding of special Citrus fertilizer before October 15. Feed cool-season annual plants monthly for winter blooms. Replant flowerbeds and hanging baskets with cool-season plants such as ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, CHRYSANTHEMUMS, CORNFLOWER, DIANTHUS, GAILLARDIA, GERANIUM, PANSY, PERIWINKLE, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SNAPDRAGON AND VERBENA.

## Garden Club Web Sites

National Garden Club: [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

Florida Federation of GC: [www.ffgc.org](http://www.ffgc.org)

TGC site: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tgc>

TMGC site: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc>

## Potential New Members, YOU Are Welcome

We are always looking for new members and have great opportunities for learning at our monthly meetings, at the Tree Farm and at special events. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information, call RoseMarie at 385-9051.

**Titusville Garden Club – Day Group** - From the Prez  
**October 2nd – Successful Orchid Growing –**  
**Speaker: Jim Adamson, Adamson's Orchids**  
**October 15<sup>th</sup> - District VI Fall Mtg, Daytona Beach**  
**October 23<sup>rd</sup> - Card Party**  
**October 26<sup>th</sup> - Order Luminaries**

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**Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter**  
The Sea Rocket Chapter's meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Enchanted Forest, 444 Columbia Blvd Hwy 405). For info, please call: 264-5185. The public is welcome.

<http://www.nbbd.com/npr/SeaRocket/>

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**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING 2013 EVENTS**

**October 12 (9-1pm) – Lake County Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale.** Tour Butterfly & Orchid houses & Discovery Gardens. Free. Ag Center, 1951 Woodlea Rd., Tavares (352)343-4101

**October 18-20 (9-4pm) Orchtobefest.** Free. Orchid & tropical plant sale. Lectures 2pm German food. EFG Orchids/Power Plant. 4265 Marsh Rd, Deland (386)490-6924

**October 19 (8am-6pm) Boktoberfest Plant Sale.** German food. Free. Bok Tower Gdns. 1151 Tower Blvd. Lake Wales (863)676-1408

**October 19 (9:30-3:30pm) Seminole County Gardening Expo.** Speakers, plants, garden items, food, more. Extension, 250 W County Home Rd, Sanford (407)665-5550

**October 26-27 (9-5pm) Orchid Fair.** Brevard County Orchid Society. Melbourne Audit., 626 E Hibiscus Blvd (321) 777-9837

**TREE FARM NEWS – Tony Koromilas**

Wow, we had a great sale, thanks to all those who have been growing the plants etc.. As I have always believed, we are enhancing and beautifying our areas and the City. Most important, we are having fun too!

The farm looks terrific, and even with all the sales, the corrals are still almost full. The figs, crotons, cherry laurel, juniper, schefflera, crape myrtle, firecracker and trees were popular with our customers. Special Thanks to Dick and Ann for bringing a truckload of special home grown unique specimens!

Again, thanks to all for making the sale a real successful event. It's amazing that folks watch for our two sales. We had customers from other cities!!!

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Please send your articles to Joanie at [freddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto:freddiefla@yahoo.com) to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

**Titusville Men's Garden Club**

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00p.m.**

**Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL**

**Our next meeting is October 14, 2013**

**Hope to see you there!**

**WORK DAY !**

Our members meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Other work times are available by contacting Ed @ 268-4418 or Tony @ 269-1931 Please come out and join us as we start preparing plants and trees for our next sale in April.

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***P.S. Speaking of "work" .....a BIG "THANK YOU"!!! To Jackie for cutting the grass while Buck was away, and to Tim (Joanie's son) for bringing his weedeater and cutting back weeds, as well as pulling out by the roots! Thank you, Jackie and Tim! JOB WELL DONE!***  
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We are happy to WELCOME our new members!!!  
**JANICE DOLAN, PAT CRAANER, RUBY EBRIGHT, TERRI BELL and TERRY ROSENBERGER.** We all look forward to getting to know you!!



**SAFE ANT CONTROL - RoseMarie**

I don't know if anyone else has been having a problem with ants inside the home or in electrical boxes. I have had a couple electrical boxes destroyed due to ants invading them. The early rains seemed to bring them inside the house as well. After researching a safe and natural way to control them, I found this recipe works very well. In fact within 1-2 days, the ants are completely gone. The magic ingredient is borax. I bought mine at Ace Hardware and it is fairly inexpensive.

- Boric Acid 1/4 teaspoon
- Sugar 2 Tablespoons
- Hot Water 1 Tablespoon

Mix together until sugar and boric acid is dissolved. Saturate several cotton balls with it. Place in a plastic sour cream or yogurt container with lid that has had several holes punched in near the bottom. The container and lid are important if you have other animals or pets that might like to sample it. Boric acid is poisonous to humans only if ingested in large quantity. I place these around outside near electric pump, electrical boxes etc. It works! This will only work if the pests are sweet-loving ants. If you have the grease-loving ants, mix peanut butter, jelly and borax together and place in traps. If the culprits are fire ants, use a product designed for them.

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**Titusville Men's Garden Club**  
**Joanie Opperman, Editor**

**Email: [freddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto:freddiefla@yahoo.com) Phone: 480-8807**

# The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Titusville Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL 32780

## INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB

**Who We Are:** A non-profit club that enjoys gardening and contributing to our City's beautification and our environment.

**What we Are:** As a part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, we are a partner of the Titusville Garden Club.

**What We Do:** We educate and help each other to enjoy gardening, teach and learn to enjoy plants. We assist others to propagate, grow and distribute trees and plants to non-profit organizations. We participate in voluntary efforts to help Titusville's "Tree City" initiative to plant 2,000 trees per year.

**Where We Meet:** We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road (south of SR 50 / north of SR 405). We also meet at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun.

**How We Operate:** We presently sponsor an April and an October Tree and Plant Sale. The sales receipts are used to support the Club, purchase materials, and donate plants to the City and other worthy non-profit causes. Some members grow plants to landscape their own homes (all are welcome to do so). With permission from a plant's adoptee, members may take plants for personal use. Dues are \$25.00 annually, due on April 1st.

Send application below to **Jim Ratliff, 4190 Hemlock Lane, Titusville, FL 32796.**

For information , please call: **RoseMarie @ 385-9051**

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_